IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION EXAMINING OPERATIONS

Applicant: Rebecca Klötzer Group Art Unit: 1711

Serial No.: Divisional of 09/642,390, filed August 18, 2000 Examiner : Bagwell, M.

Filed: (concurrently herewith)

Title : EXPANDED POROUS THERMOPLASTIC POLYMER MEMBRANES

AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

1600 ODS Tower

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January 22, 2002

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office BOX PATENT APPLICATION P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as noted below.

In the Specification

At page 1, line 1, delete "AND DEVICE" from the title.

At page 1 line 3, insert the following: "This is a divisional of Application Serial No. 09/642,390 filed August 18, 2000. The priority of PCT/EP 99/00286 filed January 19, 1999 and DE 198 03 362.1 filed January 29, 1998 is claimed pursuant to USC 35 §§120 and 365(b), respectively."

A copy of page 1 showing the foregoing revisions is enclosed.

In the Claims

Cancel, without prejudice, claims 1-5 and 12-17.

Add new claim 21 as follows:

21. The product of the method of claim 6.

REMARKS

A Petition for Extension of Time of two months was filed in connection with a Request for Continued Examination of parent application 09/642,390 filed August 18, 2000, and a copy is enclosed herewith. In addition, a copy of a Supplemental Declaration filed in the same parent application is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mail No. EL915419235US

Date of Deposit: Jan 22'02

I hereby certify that the patent application attached hereto entitled "EXPANDED POROUS THERMOPLASTIC POLYMER MEMBRANES AND METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION THEREOF", Rebecca Klötzer, inventor, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and is addressed to U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE, BOX PATENT APPLICATION, P.O. BOX 2327, Arlington, VA 22202 on January 22, 2002.

Dennis E. Stenzel